

SOUNDINGS



VOL 35 NO.1

www.lre.usace.army.mil • U.S. Army Corps of Engineers • Detroit District • Winter 2011

Busy building season

District completes major projects p. 5

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Soundings

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Soundings is an authorized newspaper of the Army Corps of Engineers Detroit District. It is published quarterly, under supervision of the Public Affairs Office in accordance with provisions of Army regulation, AR-360-1. It is prepared using desktop publishing and printed by offset press. The Soundings is also available on the Internet at

<http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/>

Circulation: We print 400 copies per issue and circulate them to employees, retirees, and anyone requesting a copy in writing.

Contents: Views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. The U.S. Army does not endorse any product or service that may be advertised or mentioned in this publication. News copy is prepared in accordance with Associated Press, AP Style Guide. All photos are U.S. Army photos unless otherwise indicated.

Submission: The Public Affairs Office welcomes comments and opinions about the information published in Soundings. News tips, ideas, suggestions and articles may be mailed to Soundings, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Detroit District: 477 Michigan Ave. Detroit, MI 48226. Fax: 313-226-5993. E-mail: Lynn.Duerod@us.army.mil. For general information, call toll free: 1-888-694-8313

COVER: Civil Engineer Adam Virga of the Detroit Area Office oversees construction of a parking ramp addition at the John D. Dingell Veterans Administration Medical Center in Detroit.



Lt. Col. Michael C. Derosier

Following the National Hockey League's recent All-Star game, 30 NHL teams have settled in for the second half of a physically and mentally demanding season. As my favorite teams – the Boston Bruins and Detroit Red Wings – have shown recently, if you don't keep up the intensity, a top spot in the division, or even a playoff berth, can easily slip away from you.

The NHL mid-season coincides with the midpoint of our fiscal year, so I'd like to offer some thoughts on what we can do to stay "GREAT" through the second half of Fiscal Year 2011 and into Fiscal Year 2012. But not before I make note of some key achievements and examples of excellence across the District:

- Thanks to all those who remain deployed in support of our nation's Overseas Contingency Operations (Stuart Siegan, Bob McKechnie, Steve Check, Angelique Barteau, Pat Kuhne, and Doug Pine), and to those who have recently deployed or stand ready to deploy (Jolanda Rose, Phyllis Hicks, LaJuan Osborne-Lenyoun, Mark Kirkendall, Christine Weisenberger and Josh Keyser). We have also welcomed Rich Sallans back from Afghanistan since the last Soundings was published.

- The Soo Area Office operated and maintained the locks to an incredibly high standard throughout the past shipping season. Great Lakes ships hauled 88.7 million tons of dry bulk freight in 2010, up from 66.5 million tons in 2009, an increase of 33.4 percent. The biggest improvement was in iron ore for the steel industry, which shot up 75 percent — from

"As we move into the second half of our fiscal year, let us never rest on our laurels as we strive for excellence and set the standards within our profession."

24 million tons in 2009 to 42 million tons. This season a total of 9,982 vessels passed through the locks, a linchpin of the entire Great Lakes Navigation System, with few unscheduled outages totaling only hours and negligible impacts to shipping.

- Special recognition also goes to the Soo's dewatering crew. In January the team endured frigid conditions and dealt with a variety of unforeseen challenges to perform winter maintenance. They worked many unexpected hours of overtime, battled the brutal cold, and persevered until they achieved their goal.

- Our quality management efforts last year contributed to the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division being the first Corps entity to achieve ISO 9001 certification; congratulations are due this year on successful accomplishment of our surveillance audit. Our continued efforts demonstrate that we are doing our part to improve and maintain high quality standards across the District, Division and the entire Corps.

- Our Veterans Administration District and Area Office project delivery teams' persistent efforts in delivering the highest quality work on VA facilities, have resulted in VISN 11 recently requesting the Detroit District's support in managing additional projects.

- I want to thank all who helped host John Goss of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, and the Chicago District, during public meetings for the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study, held in Green Bay, Traverse City, Ann Arbor, and Milwaukee. As part of GLMRIS, our Hydraulics and Hydrology Section also has a leading role in the Other Pathways Study. For more Asian Carp information, visit <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/AsianCarp>.

- Thanks also to our many volunteers for such events as The Detroit Boat Show,

(continued on page 3)



Commander's Column (continued)

the annual holiday party, retirement celebrations and the Combined Federal Campaign – your positive contributions to a thriving workplace are duly noted.

- The District and Area Offices put forth great effort toward the Post Construction Conference. The conference offered an outstanding opportunity to critically review what we did and what we can do better. There were many excellent presentations and very good, thoughtful discussions of how to improve our quality and performance. We had tremendous participation from Area Offices and contractors.

- Our Detroit Arsenal Resident Office and project delivery teams are setting the example for all of USACE when it comes to Base Realignment and Closure execution. To meet the urgent needs of the garrison, the teams completed two major projects well ahead of schedule. The administrative building achieved substantial completion on Jan. 27, two months ahead of schedule. And the parking structure was turned over at the Nov. 23, 2010 ribbon cutting ceremony – four months ahead of schedule.

- I also appreciate our efforts in promoting beneficial reuse of clean dredged material from Erie Pier Confined Disposal Facility, for mineland reclamation and highway construction. This type of innovation is crucial to

developing economically viable and environmentally responsible solutions for dredged material management, a practice that is crucial to the Great Lakes navigation system.

I have also enjoyed continuing my circulation of the District's area of responsibility with notable events such as the Great Lakes Waterways Conference, tribal consultation with the Little Traverse Bay Band Tribe, a ribbon cutting at Renard Island, a visit with the South Bend Regulatory Office, the State of Indiana annual meeting, project visits in Saginaw at the VA hospital and the Army Reserve Center; tours of the DAO floating plant, Boardman Dams and Northwest Michigan College projects in Traverse City; brown bag lunches with employees, and having the opportunity to speak with the Detroit/Chicago/Buffalo Leadership Development Program II group. I still need to visit the Marquette Regulatory Office before I can say I've covered the District's entire footprint, and I look forward to that visit.

Please also allow me to congratulate Gary O'Keefe for his selection as the LRD GLMRIS Program Manager, and Chris Dowhan-Bailey, on the occasion of her retirement. Both were members of the District Board, so I worked closely with them over the past several months and appreciate their knowledge, leadership

and commitment to the District's mission and workforce.

As we move into the second half of our fiscal year, let us never rest on our laurels as we strive for excellence and set the standards within our profession.

- Execute, Execute, Execute our projects, studies and programs.
- Engage stakeholders and customers (internal and external).
- Recognize superior performance of individuals and teams.
- Cultivate a culture of safety; eradicate accidents.
- Seek out overseas deployment opportunities.
- Establish quality Total Army Performance Evaluation System, TAPES, performance objectives and individual development plans, and conduct mid-year performance counseling.
- Contribute to quality initiatives and quality improvements.

Perhaps most important, is to seize a "Good to Great" mindset...I am certain this will ensure the Detroit District team a berth in the playoffs this year.

Regulatory Office plans informational forums

Detroit District staff will host four informational forums this spring – Wetlands, Waterways, and You! – in Michigan and Indiana to provide an overview of Regulatory Office programs.

These forums will also enable the public to ask questions of the Corps employees who process permit applications and enforce environmental regulations. Attendees also may interact with Regulatory project managers to discuss working

in regulated waterways, wetlands and along shorelines; when a Corps permit is required; and the information needed to apply for permits.

The forum dates and locations are: Fort Wayne, Ind., April 12; Bay City, Mich., May 16; Traverse City, Mich., June 7; and Marquette, Mich., June 9. Two forum sessions are planned for each date.

For more information, log onto www.lre.usace.army.mil/regulatory.



Soo work crews stay busy with winter maintenance

by Tom Black
Public Affairs Office

When the Soo Locks close down for the winter, and shipping traffic ceases, this offers a ten-week window of opportunity for work crews to conduct needed maintenance and repairs.

As they do each year, Soo Area Office employees compiled an extensive winter maintenance schedule listing hundreds of detailed tasks ranging from painting to cleaning electrical relays to inspecting and repairing gate welds.

In mid-January, as crews began dewatering the Poe Lock, extreme cold temperatures hindered the placement of dewatering bulkheads for several days. Once the bulkheads were all placed and the dewatering gates were closed, pumps worked for nine hours to eliminate water from the lock, according to Kevin Sprague, Soo area engineer.

After the lock was pumped out, divers went to work sealing leaks in gates and bulkheads with oakum, oats and sawdust. Maintenance crews then set about replacing parts such as the lock gate anchorages, installing new hydraulic actuators for lock valves, and inspecting steel gate structures.

Additionally, workers performed a wide range of other tasks including weld repairs to gate structures, replacement of fender timbers and hydraulic systems maintenance.

The Crane Barge *Harvey* used the Poe Lock as a dry dock this winter. Its crane supported repairs to itself and was used to move parts and materials from one side of the lock to the other. Crews repaired the *Harvey* hull while the vessel was dry docked – repairs that can only be performed with the vessel out of water.



The stoplogs that keep the Poe Lock dry allow the crews to perform their work safely.
(Photos by Michelle Hill)

“This winter we are working under tight funding constraints and are doing our best to control cost,” Sprague said.

The Soo crews use multi-beam sonar and a remotely operated vehicle equipped with a video camera to discover and document the condition of dewatering sills and debris pits, but “there’s still things you miss,” Sprague said.

Therefore, dive teams from Detroit and Buffalo are called on to help inspect these areas and clear them if necessary. Occasionally, crews come across problems they didn’t know existed and need to work those into their repair schedule.

“We really only have about seven or eight weeks to do all of our work,” Sprague said, adding that time is usually the most crucial issue. Work must be done by the scheduled date for the locks opening, March 25, and “there’s no allowance for failure.”

Approximately 90 people work steadily on winter maintenance, Sprague said. Overtime is avoided as much as possible to keep costs in check, but occasionally is used for urgent scenarios.

Winter Work Crew 2011

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fender Crew:
Paul Anderson
Dwight Frazier
Steve Hanks
Richard Laitinen
Henry Lowes
Charlie Rogers • Hydraulic Crew:
Gus Jelen
Janet Lozon
Randy McKinney
Joe Terrone • Paint Crew:
Merle Gurnoe
Paul Kosiewicz
Dave Niemi
Gordon Earl • Valve Crew:
Denny Barkley
Shane Akre
Mark Aldrich
Clayton Goebel
Tom Soeltner
Joe Bailey
Matt Leazier
Shawn McCurley
Shawn Gaylor • Shack Crew:
Mike Thompson
Ted Mrozek
Matt Proulx
Phil Sibbald
Fred Killips • Gate Crew:
Chris Albrough
Bill Campbell
Dennis Campbell
Terry Larson
Jason Wojnarowski
Dave Remyszewski
Tom Geobel
Justin Proelx
Dan Ellis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gate Boring Crew:
Jeff Garlinghouse
Scott Aldrich
Scott Gilbertson • Electrical Crew:
Walt Hart
Scott Rokita
Henri Ware
Butch Haske
Bob Donaldson
Jim Deemer
Jeff Giddings
Bill Feltis • Equipment Mechanic:
Steve Bernier • Harvey/Stiffleg Crew:
Ron Taipalus
Gene Jones
Craig Firme
Wil Nolan
Jason TenEyck • Mechanical Engineer Crew:
Mike Bunker
Nick Springer
Kurt Bunker • Nicolet Crew:
John Laitinen
Roy Carne
Louis Paynter • Steamplant:
Pete Sporte • Surveyor crew:
Jim Mrozek
Ken Smith
Ben Wittum
Jason Iodence • Worksite Maintenance Crew:
Don Johnston
Dennis White
Del Jones
Gary Clow • Winter Work Supervisor:
John Swartzlander |
|--|---|

District undertakes wide variety of civil works projects

by Tom Black
Public Affairs Office

The Detroit District is seeing its hard work come to fruition after an intense couple of years involving numerous major construction projects.

The District recently wrapped up construction and renovation projects at the Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Mich., improvements to Veterans Administration medical facilities in Michigan and Wisconsin, and maintenance of Great Lakes infrastructure. Sewer line repairs, dredging and other projects are ongoing.

Recently completed projects include:



The Administration Building at the Detroit Arsenal was a design-build project, meaning the design and construction phases overlapped and were handled by a single contractor.

- A \$70.9 million Administration Building and 1,800-space parking structure at the Detroit Arsenal in Warren. The building will house 1,100 employees, many of whom are being relocated from Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., as part of the Base Realignment and Closure, commission recommendations. A June 17 ribbon cutting ceremony is planned.
- Renovation of the Weapons Maintenance and Operations Center at the Detroit Arsenal. The \$5.5 million project features a two-story addition to accommodate the Integrated Logistics Support Center from Rock Island Arsenal. The addition includes training classrooms, a weapons vault intrusion detection system and an interior fire alarm and fire suppression system.

- Improvements to surgical facilities in the Clement J. Zablocki Veterans Administration Medical Center in Milwaukee. The \$5.1 million project was conducted in phases, allowing the center's operating rooms to remain in service. The project included construction of a new suite consisting of five surgical operating rooms; and upgrading of the surgical suite to improve patient flow and infection control.
- Completion of Phase Two of the Saugatuck, Mich., revetment project, which included installation of new steel sheet piling and rocks. The north and south revetments were repaired at a cost of \$4.9 million. Funding was from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, commonly known as the stimulus program.
- Parking ramp additions at the John D. Dingell Veterans Administration Medical Center in Detroit (pictured on the cover). The \$4.37 million project, completed in October 2010, added 150 spaces to the existing north and south parking structures.
- Construction of a temporary causeway in Green Bay Harbor, Wis., connecting the mainland with Renard Island, an inactive confined disposal facility. Materials coming from nearby Bay Port CDF will be trucked

over the causeway to grade, cap and cover the old CDF. The contract is worth \$2.4 million.

Major projects awarded in 2010 but not yet completed include:

- Construction of a \$4.1 million crib dam at the Soo Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. The dam will help channel water into the hydropower plant adjacent to the locks.
 - Replacement of heating, ventilating and air conditioning infrastructure at the Aleda E. Lutz Veterans Administration Medical Center in Saginaw, Mich., at a cost of \$3 million.
 - Sewer improvements and repairs worth \$2.1 million in Macomb and Oakland counties in southeast Michigan. The ARRA-funded project includes the repair of 26 stormwater discharge points to the Red Run Drain open channel.
 - Another ARRA project involves rehabilitation of about two miles of sewer lines near Southfield, Mich., using cured-in-place technology. The contractor also will clean 14,000 feet of the South Oakland County Sanitary Disposal System. The contract is worth \$1.2 million
- Additionally, more than 20 contracts totaling \$12,337,555 were awarded for dredging projects.



A June 17 ribbon cutting is planned for the 230,340-square-foot Administration Building at the Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Mich. (Photos provided by TACOM Public Affairs)

EEO Office sponsors observance of Black History Month

Story and photo by
Cassandra Kardeke
Public Affairs Office

It's been over 150 years since the start of the Civil War yet even today there are still things to learn from those moments of our nation's history.

During the month of February we celebrate National African American History Month. This year's theme "African Americans and the Civil War," reflected upon the vast contributions of African Americans to our nation's history and identity.

In keeping with the theme, the Equal Employment and Opportunity Office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District held an observance Feb. 18, which included a guest speaker from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People followed by a reenactment of a meeting between abolitionist John Brown and Frederick Douglass. Kicking off the event was the song, *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, the National African American anthem, sung by Zenia Turner, EEO Specialist with the Detroit District.

Melvin "Butch" Hollowell, general counsel for the Detroit chapter of the NAACP and director of the Thurgood Marshall Center for Social Justice Advocacy, highlighted key moments involving African Americans in our nation's history and Detroit's important role in the Underground Railroad.

"Over 100,000 slaves came through Detroit to ferry over to Canada through the Underground Railroad," Hollowell said.

Following Hollowell's speech, Dexter Mays and Eric Maher of the Matrix Theatre Company in Detroit, performed in a reenactment from the play "Harper's Ferry" which depicted a meeting between Frederick Douglass and abolitionist John Brown. In



Dexter Mays, as Frederick Douglass, and Eric Maher, as abolitionist John Brown, perform a scene from the play "Harper's Ferry" during a Feb. 18 observance of Black History Month. The thespians are from the Matrix Theatre Company in Detroit.

the skit, Maher, who plays the part of Brown, discusses his plans to raid Virginia's Harper's Ferry Armory in 1859 and tries to gain the support of Douglass. Mays, playing the part of Douglass, continues to speak about peaceful resolutions to end slavery and finds himself unable to convince Brown of the same. Later that year, the raid on Harper's Ferry failed and Brown was executed for murder, conspiring to incite slave rebellion and treason against the state of Virginia.

Since that time many changes have taken place throughout our country.

Today, African American men and women have launched businesses, fueled scientific advances, served in the Armed Forces and in public office, and continue to build on our nation's foundation of freedom, equal opportunity, economic security and civil rights for all Americans. Learn more about African American history at:

www.africanamericanhistorymonth.gov.

Black
history
month



Schweiger retires after 31 productive years

By Tom Black,
Public Affairs Office

Dave Schweiger, chief of Engineering and Construction Office, is another longtime employee who has retired, taking with him years of knowledge and experience. He was honored with a Feb. 2 party at the Rub Barbecue in downtown Detroit.

"It has truly been an adventure," said Schweiger, who started at the Detroit Area Office in 1979. "There is no question that the Corps is unmatched in its ability to provide employees with diverse assignments. That's certainly been the case with my career."

A native of Richmond, Mich., Schweiger earned a bachelor of science degree in civil engineering from Michigan State University in 1973.

Starting out in the Construction-Operations Division in June 1979, Schweiger joined the Great Lakes Hydraulics and Hydrology Branch after eight months, working his way up to chief in 1996. In 2001, he was promoted to assistant chief of Engineering and Technical Services, and in 2004, chief of Engineering and Construction Office. Schweiger took



Dave Schweiger

on a variety of assignments during his three decades of service, including involvement with the International Joint Commission's Boards of Control, which manage and study Great Lakes water levels. He collaborated with Canadian officials in handling the scientific, environmental and political challenges of international water management.

"By far, my most rewarding career experience was the 10 days I spent flood-fighting in Fort Wayne in 1982," Schweiger said. "It was truly a humbling experience to be in the midst

of a community devastated by floods, seeing many who lost everything they had to Mother Nature. And then to see the community's resolve in fighting back was certainly amazing." Schweiger is quick to credit his co-workers "I am particularly proud of my Engineering and Construction staff for what they have accomplished over the last two hectic years," he said. "For their professionalism, their respect for each other, and their resolve to make Engineering and Construction and the

district great."

Schweiger and his wife Ann reside in Macomb County. They have four children, plus one grandson and one granddaughter.

Dave and Ann enjoy camping and plan to do it more often. He looks forward to spending many hours with his grandchildren, and wants to stay in touch with former co-workers.

Photos of Schweiger's retirement gatherings can be seen on the District's Intranet site.

Allis receives Commander's Award for civilian service

Civil engineer John Allis has received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service for his enthusiasm, creativity and successful work as Endowed Chair of the Great Lakes and Ohio River Regional Integration Team, RIT. From May to September 2010, Allis worked at the Corps Headquarters in Washington, D.C. He helped coordinate projects and strategy involving the Detroit District, Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, Headquarters, and the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works.

Allis tracked key milestones for the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal Efficacy

Study. His oversight led to completion of three interim study reports in less than a year. He participated in Asian Carp hearings conducted by the U.S. Senate, and led a presentation on the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study to high ranking federal officials. Allis also handled numerous congressional inquiries on major projects; reviewed and edited over 100 fact sheets on the Water Resources Development Act; and was the primary RIT representative at the headquarters Project Review Boards and Directorate Management Review Boards.



John Allis

Dowhan-Bailey retires after 30 years of service to the district

by Tom Black
Public Affairs Office

Lead Counsel Christine Dowhan-Bailey helped keep the bureaucratic gears churning so the real gears could turn – for construction, dredging, wetlands restoration and a host of other important Corps of Engineers projects.

Following her retirement after 30 years with the Detroit District Office of Counsel, her co-workers honored Dowhan-Bailey with a cake on Jan. 7, followed that evening by a retirement party in Lincoln Park, Mich. District Engineer Lt. Col. Michael Derosier presented her with the bronze de Fleury Medal for her contributions to Army Engineering.

A native of Pittsburgh, Dowhan-Bailey graduated from the University of Pittsburgh and the Detroit College of Law.

She said that when she joined the district, she was swamped with millions of dollars worth of contract claims work. Eventually, the district adopted a policy of formal partnering.

Formal partnering calls for Corps

officials and contractors to sit down and assess projects at the outset – to explore and resolve possible trouble spots before they become major issues. Dowhan-Bailey said these partnering sessions have helped the Corps and its contractors forge solid working relationships, and increased trust.



Christine Dowhan-Bailey

One of her more rewarding accomplishments, Dowhan-Bailey said, was helping arrange funding for the Milwaukee Dredged Material Disposal Facility, DMDF, from the state of Wisconsin and local sponsors. Milwaukee needed additional capacity for dredged materials, but its confined

disposal facility was full.

Dowhan-Bailey and colleagues worked against time constraints since harbor maintenance at Milwaukee would have been jeopardized without promptly adding storage capacity. She helped with obtaining the necessary approvals and coordinating the participation of local, state and federal governments. The new DMDF will be constructed this summer and will provide 20 years of capacity for the port.

Dowhan-Bailey said achievements like that, plus excellent co-workers, made her Corps experience fulfilling and enjoyable.

"I respected and enjoyed the people I worked with, in and outside of Counsel," she said.

Her husband Gary retired in June as the district's emergency management chief, so the couple looks forward to sharing common interests in retirement. They have traveled extensively in Europe and hope to visit Ireland. The Baileys want to spend more time visiting their five adult children and two-year-old granddaughter, and having lots of time to read.

See her retirement party photos on the District's Intranet.



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
Infrastructure Systems Conference
Atlanta, GA, 13 - 17 June 2011



Infrastructures Systems Conference planned for June

The 2011 Infrastructure Systems Conference offers many learning opportunities to engineering and construction professionals. "Quality Design & Construction for a Stronger Future" is the theme of the conference, to be held June 13-17 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Atlanta.

The event serves as an information-exchanging opportunity for the engineering and construction communities from the federal government, academia and the private sector.

A plenary session and technical breakout sessions are intended to stimulate discussion and inquiry into the scientific, technical and professional issues relevant to the Army Corps

of Engineers' mission.

The breakout sessions will cover construction, dam and levee safety, electrical engineering, geospatial, geotechnical engineering, hydrology and hydraulics, survey and mapping, sustainable design and engineering, materials engineering, mechanical engineering, structural engineering, and other inter-disciplinary topics.

The 2011 ISC is important in helping the Corps continue to build its technical competence and carry on its tradition of being prepared to meet the nation's current and future engineering and construction needs.

For more information, visit www.usace-isc.org.

District participates in regional meetings on invasive species study

by Lynn Duerod
Public Affairs Office

The Great Lakes and Ohio River Division has taken various steps over the years to prevent Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes, but more recently has adopted a comprehensive approach to confronting invasive species including plants and other organisms.

Leading this effort is the Chicago District, which held public scoping meetings from December 2010 through March 8 in seven states to gather input on the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study.

GLMRIS was launched to evaluate a range of options and technologies to prevent the transfer of aquatic nuisance species, between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River through aquatic pathways. The Corps invited the public to listen to informational presentations about the study and then provide comments.

Gary O'Keefe, former Detroit deputy for project management and new division GLMRIS senior program manager, and other Detroit District employees participated in many of these meetings. Using input obtained during the scoping period, the Corps will adjust GLMRIS to focus on significant issues,

as well as eliminate issues that are not significant from further detailed study.

Issues associated with GLMRIS are likely to include, but not be limited to: significant natural resources, such as ecosystems and threatened and endangered species; commercial and recreational fisheries; recreational uses of the lakes and waterways; effects of potential ANS controls on waterways uses such as: flood risk management, commercial and recreational navigation; and statutory and legal responsibilities relative to the effected waterways.

As part of the study, the team found 18 other pathways that are potential opportunities for invasive species to cross basins. Shelley Tule, the Detroit District's newly identified GLMRIS point of contact, is keeping an eye on the other pathways information as 70

percent of those identified are within the district boundaries.

After the public comment period concludes March 31, the study team will finalize the parameters of the study which will eventually lead to feasibility recommendations to senior leadership and Congress.



Maj. Gen. Peabody addresses the concerns and ideas of a group of fifth graders who attended the meeting on March 8. (Photo by Tom Black)



What is an ANS?

An ANS is a nonindigenous species that threatens the diversity or abundance of native species; the ecological stability of infested waters; or the commercial, agricultural, aqua-cultural or recreational activities dependent on such water. As a result of international commerce, travel and local practices, ANS have been introduced and spread throughout the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins. Connected primarily by man-made channels, ANS transfer was impeded historically by the poor water quality of those waterways. Recent water quality improvements have made it easier for transfers of ANS between the two basins to occur.

For more information regarding GLMRIS and scoping requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, visit the GLMRIS Web site at www.glmris.anl.gov. View the other pathways report at <http://www.glmris.anl.gov/documents/index.cfm>.



Taking questions during a public meeting in Traverse City, Mich., are, from left, Michael Saffran, other pathways project manager; David Wethington, Chicago Area Waterways System project manager; Col. Vincent Quarles, Chicago District commander; John Goss, asian carp director, President's Council on Environmental Quality; and Kevin Bluhm, community outreach moderator with the St. Paul District Planning Division. (Photo by Lynn Duerod)

District promotes water safety and Corps programs at boat shows

by Tom Black
Public Affairs Office

While thousands of boating enthusiasts checked out new products at the Detroit Boat Show and Duluth Boat, Sports, Travel and RV Show in February, the Detroit District once again took the opportunity to promote water safety and interact with the public about Corps of Engineers programs and achievements.

About 62,000 people attended the Detroit show, which took place Feb. 12-20 at Cobo Center, according to the sponsoring Michigan Boating Industries Association. The District's exhibit featured the ever-popular Soo Locks replica (part of the Kids' Clinic), designed and built by Jim Selegean; Seamoor the Sea Serpent; a display of historic Great Lakes water levels; and a large satellite poster photo of the Great Lakes region.

"The annual Detroit Boat Show is a great opportunity to showcase the District. Our freshened display, which included the popular model of the Soo Locks, helped draw visitors, and our volunteers did a great job of promoting water safety and answering questions about Corps of Engineers programs and achievements. I am continually impressed with the dedication, enthusiasm and professionalism of our workforce", said Maj. John Richards, Detroit District deputy commander.

Volunteers distributed a variety of brochures, bulletins, maps and posters on water safety, Great Lakes water level forecasts, Asian carp, Corps campgrounds and beaches, dredging, the Soo Locks, wetlands and permit information, and other subjects. Corps employees also gave out plastic toss rings emblazoned with water safety messages.

At the Duluth show, which took place Feb. 16-20 at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center attendance was way up – about 44,000 – compared to 28,000 last year.

Duluth Area Office employees presented a version of the "Cold Hand

Luke" program on hypothermia and water safety. According to Duluth employee Mary George, the Duluth show offers this program to a targeted audience and is timely because each February the Duluth Superior Harbor basin and shoreline are dotted with shanties and ice fishing enthusiasts.

About 289 people, primarily youngsters, were willing to plunge their hands into the icy water and test their knowledge of hypothermia. The Duluth volunteers gave away 1,750 water safety plastic toss rings and 750 Bobber

the Water Safety Dog coloring books. They also distributed multiple handouts on ice and water safety for anglers, drivers of cars and snowmobiles, and people who choose to walk on the ice.

The Duluth office traditionally targets water safety and hypothermia at the Duluth show as part of its commitment to the Corps' mission of water safety both nationally and locally.

Complementing the Duluth display, the St. Paul District had an adjacent exhibit with the theme, "Camping with the Corps."



Mary George of the Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center times a visitor's endurance of the icy "Cold Hand Luke" display at the Duluth Boat, Sports, Travel and RV Show. The Duluth Area Office offers the attraction to promote water safety and underscore the dangers of hypothermia. (Photo by Ed Parzych)



Shelley Tule of Hydraulics and Hydrology discusses Great Lakes water levels with a visitor at the Detroit Boat Show exhibit. Volunteers were supplied with informational materials regarding water levels and Asian Carp, two topics very much on visitors' minds. (Photo by Tom Black)



**Winners of the
Wii bowling tournament
were:**

**Tim & Kelsey Smith,
Mike Allis and
John Allis.**

**Each received a petite
trophy.**

*Employees gather at the Rub Barbecue in
downtown Detroit for the annual holiday party,
held Dec. 16. (Photo by Tom Black)*



*Mike O'Bryan and Pat O'Connor enjoy a good laugh.
(Photo by Ron Greene)*



*Lt. Col. Mike Derosier joins colleagues in the socializing. (Photo by
Tom Black)*



Tommie Allen competes in Wii bowling. (Photo by Tom Black)



*Getting together during the mid-day festivities are Ron Greene,
Leigh Ann Ryckeghem and Adam Virga.*



Employees of the Quarter

Third Quarter 2010



Hal Harrington
Environmental Analysis Branch

Harrington has been a significant resource, providing

fisheries and aquatic ecosystem analysis, conducting research, and offering seasoned advice and guidance on a variety of projects.

He has been heavily involved in document preparation for project compliance with the Clean Water Act and National Environmental Policy Act. His efforts have freed up numerous staffers to work on other key priorities.

Harrington has put two interns to work assisting in the preparation of environmental assessments for infrastructure repairs and preliminary restoration plans for several proposed ecosystem restorations.

He has played a key role in preparing the state permit applications for the Green Bay Dredged Material Management Program and the Red Run Drain project in Oakland County, Mich.



Mary Anderson
Regulatory Office

Anderson joined the Executive Office for a developmental

detail and immediately took over the project manager role for both the Change of Command and Corps Day Barbecue. She oversaw the rehearsal and preparation for a Change of Command ceremony, and pulled together a team to plan and coordinate the annual barbecue at Belle Isle in Detroit, which also was a huge success.

These two high profile events required immense attention to detail and extreme amounts of coordination with other offices and agencies. Anderson conscientiously accomplished these tasks while learning the challenging role of executive assistant in a fast-paced office.

She spent extra hours to ensure all coordination was complete and managed to keep the diverse event teams on track.



Mike Staal
Lake Michigan Area Office

Staal is an engineering intern, and part of his training program is to be

assigned to an Area Office to gain field experience. During his assignment with the Kewaunee sub-office of the Lake Michigan Area Office, he was assigned to perform contract administration in the field for the Green Bay dredging project.

Because portions of the federal channel have contaminants, the Environmental Protection Agency required the Corps to monitor turbidity in the water column upstream and downstream of the dredging operations. Staal needed to be on call and took samples at all hours of the day. He provided timely and accurate reporting to the EPA to ensure the Corps' dredging was environmentally friendly, and prevented interruptions in dredging.

Staal also conducted LMAO's first infrastructure inventory and an accompanying report on all harbors across the LMAO jurisdictional area, which required extensive travel and site visits.

District employees involved in Leadership Development Program



Scott Thieme, assistant chief of Planning, Programs and Project Management, recently completed the year-long Leadership Development Program Level 3, which offers participants a unique opportunity to hone their leadership and organizational skills while receiving mentoring from senior leaders.

Harry Salisbury, chief, Programs



Management, and Adam Fox, principal water resources planner, have been selected to participate in the 2011-2012 LDP3.

The 12 participants, from all seven districts of the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, are granted access to the region's senior leaders, their philosophies and practices; and participation in regional governance bodies. Participants spend three weeks off site developing leadership skills and completing assignments on their own time.

Participants work on team projects and

spend a week in Washington, D.C., during which they learn about Congress and the Corps of Engineers Headquarters operations. Participants also go on site visits to key projects of regional importance.

LDP3 is open to GS-12, GS-13, and GS-14 civilian employees. As a goal the program seeks to teach participants the connection between the Learning Organization Doctrine, leadership and talent, and Corps of Engineers business processes.

For more information on the program, contact Dana Craig, 502-315-6167, Dana.L.Craig@usace.army.mil.